

$At \ a \ Glance$

Department of Health Care Policy and Financing

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Breaking News

CHP+ Eliminates 3 Month Waiting Period

The CHP+ 3 Month Waiting Period has been eliminated for everyone effective immediately. All manual processes can be stopped. Children are still not eligible if they have other insurance. There will be more communication to come. Thanks to everyone for your support.

For more information, please contact Christine Martinez

Early Adoption of MAGI Rules

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) approved the state's request to implement the early adoption of MAGI (Modified Adjusted Gross Income)-based rules for Medicaid effective October 2013. Though coverage would not begin for newly eligible individuals until January 2014, this waiver allows the Medicaid application process to better align with the Connect for Health Colorado open enrollment.

Dental Benefits Stakeholder Opportunities

The Department is hosting a series of Dental Benefit Collaborative meetings to define the coverage standards for our newly approved limited adult dental benefit (SB13-242) and the children's dental benefit. We welcome all stakeholder input.

For a meeting schedule and any additional information, please visit our <u>benefits</u> <u>collaborative</u> web page.

Improve Health Outcomes

Waiver Simplification Update

In collaboration with stakeholders, the Department has developed a <u>Waiver Simplification</u> <u>Concept Paper</u> that provides a high-level overview of what Colorado plans to do to simplify its waiver system, while expanding individual control, choice, and services available to individuals in a more person-centered, individualized system.

The purpose of this concept paper is to start a conversation with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), our federal partners, so that they can provide initial guidance and technical assistance as we start this journey to simplify our community-based services system.

We thank our partners in the many LTSS stakeholder groups whose work has informed this plan, including the Waiver Simplification Subcommittee, the Brain Injury Waiver Stakeholder

Group, the Participant-Directed Programs Policy Collaborative, the Children's Disability Committee (also known as "Medicaid and Kids"), the Consumer Direction Subcommittee, and the Community First Choice Council.

This document is intended to summarize the general direction of this work at a very high level. The specifics will come later through the work of the Waiver Simplification Subcommittee



working with state staff. Once we have received feedback from CMS, the work of simplifying our waivers will begin in earnest and include further opportunities for stakeholder engagement. As the concept paper indicates, we expect this process to take several years to complete.

The primary goal of waiver simplification is that clients enrolled in HCBS get the services and supports they need when they need them to live in and engage in their community.

For more information, go to the <u>Waiver Simplification Subcommittee web page</u> or contact <u>Tim Cortez</u>.

Mental Health Providers - Depression Screening

The Colorado Medical Assistance Program covers depression screening for adolescents aged 11 – 20, using a standardized, validated depression screening tool at the child's periodic visits.

Benefits:

- One screen per year for adolescents aged 11 20 years
- Post-Partum Depression Screening: providers may choose to screen adolescent clients for post-partum depression as part of the client's annual depression screen. However, post-partum depression screening is not covered for Medicaid clients aged 21 and over. Providers should report CPT code 99420, "Administration and interpretation of health risk assessment instrument (for example, health hazard appraisal)," when providing depression screens.

For more detailed information, please refer to the Developmental/Depression Screening Policy Statement by visiting the <u>Approved Benefit Coverage Standards</u> web page. For more information, please contact <u>Kimberley Smith</u>.

The Department's <u>Healthy Living page</u> also contains helpful information about this benefit. For questions concerning depression screening on the Healthy Living page, please contact <u>Jerry Ware.</u>

Affordable Care Act Implementation News

The <u>ACA Implementation News</u> is a twice a month publication providing updates on and opportunities to participate in the Department's implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

ACA and Medicaid Expansion Speaking Requests

In an effort to coordinate in person or webinar speaking requests regarding the ACA or Medicaid expansion by representatives from the Department, please fill out the speaking request form found online here at the bottom of the page and send it to Colleen Daywalt.

Tobacco Free CO

To help prevent and reduce the toxic health effects of tobacco use, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment is launching a new online resource, <u>TobaccoFreeCO.org</u>.

The department reports tobacco remains the state's No. 1 cause of preventable death. It causes more than 4,300 deaths each year – more than alcohol, AIDS, motor vehicle accidents, illegal drugs, murders and suicides combined.

Please click here for more information about the resources.

Increase Enrollment

Connect for Health Colorado Certified Application Counselor Program

Connect for Health Colorado is happy to announce the <u>Certified Application Counselor</u> Program. This new program is a way for qualified organizations to receive training from Connect for Health Colorado to help support Coloradans with applications for health coverage through the new marketplace. Applications will be accepted through September 30.

To have qualified staff trained by October 1, applications must be received by September 6. Completed and signed applications and agreements must be uploaded to http://c4hco.upload.connectforhealthco.com.

Connect for Health Colorado will designate organizations throughout the state that will provide application assistance to consumers seeking health coverage and financial assistance paying for health coverage through our new health insurance marketplace. The Certified Application Counselor Program is an unfunded initiative that will establish designated organizations as Connect for Health Colorado partners to support our efforts to provide access to health coverage to Coloradans. The Certified Application Counselor Program is designed for providers and other organizations that perform application assistance for health coverage or financial assistance, or otherwise provide support with health coverage enrollments.

For more information, please click here.

CBMS Update



As part of the Governor's Office of Information Technology's (OIT) on-going improvement projects, CBMS users can expect to see changes to the system during the months of August and September. The Department has highlighted some key system changes in the July 19, 2013 and August 2, 2013 issues of ACA Implementation News.

For a project-by-project look at what is happening and what users can expect when a build has been completed, please go to the Future Projects Index under the CBO tab at CBMSColorado.com or contact Chris Lines.

Medical Services Board

Public Rule Review Opportunities

Partners who are interested in a one-on-one discussion with Department staff about upcoming rules are invited to attend the Department's Public Rule Review Meeting. Information is available on the Public Rule Review Meetings web page. Reasonable accommodations for the meetings are provided upon request for persons with disabilities.

If you would like more information, or to be added to the Board email distribution list, please contact Judi Carey.

Employment Opportunities

Applying for state government jobs is easy. Applications are electronic, you will receive updates, and you do not need to answer any written questions until it is determined that you meet the minimum qualifications. Check out the website for State of Colorado jobs including the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing jobs.

The Department offers a competitive benefits package that includes the Public Employees' Retirement Account (PERA), a 401K or 457 retirement plan, health and dental insurance options, 10 holidays, and accrual of paid sick and vacation time.

The Department is a tobacco-free campus.

Enrollment

In July 2013 there were 724,724 clients enrolled in Medicaid and 69,684 clients enrolled in CHP+. Monthly numbers for enrollment and expenditures can be found on the Department's Budget Web page.



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